

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ARA-14 ISO-00 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 TRSE-00 /089 W
-----098861 091904Z /40

R 091450Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2712
INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
AMEMBASSY LIMA
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

UNCLAS STOCKHOLM 0079

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINS, CI, SW
SUBJ: SWEDES TO TAKE COMPROMISE POSITION ON CHILEAN IMMIGRATION

REF: 77 STOCKHOLM 4224

1. IN A SWEDISH NEWS AGENCY (TT) INTERVIEW PUBLISHED JANUARY 9, SWEDISH MINISTER FOR FOREIGN ASSISTANCE AND IMMIGRATION OLA ULLSTEN DECLARED THAT GOS HAS NO INTENTION OF ADOPTING A VISA REQUIREMENT FOR CHILEANS WISHING TO TRAVEL TO SWEDEN. RUMORS HAD BEEN CIRCULATING THAT THE GOVERNMENT WAS ABOUT TO ADOPT SUCH A MEASURE.

2. ULLSTEN REFUSED, HOWEVER, TO ACCEPT DEMANDS FROM THE LOCAL CHILE COMMITTEE, WHICH HAS JUST CONCLUDED ITS FIFTH CONGRESS, TO REFRAIN FROM MAKING CHANGES IN CURRENT PROCEDURES WHICH WOULD COMPROMISE THE RIGHTS OF CHILEANS CLAIMING POLITICAL PERSECUTION TO RECEIVE POLITICAL EXILE IN SWEDEN. ULLSTEN REITERATED GOS POSITION THAT THE NEED TO GIVE PRIORITY TO THE
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POLITICALLY PERSECUTED REQUIRES THE DENIAL OF APPLICATIONS TO STAY MADE BY CHILEANS WHOM GOS DEEMS NOT TO BE GENUINE REFUGEES. THE CHILE COMMITTEE APPEAL WAS MOTIVATED BY CASE OF SEVEN CHILEANS WHOSE APPLICATIONS FOR ASYLUM HAD BEEN REJECTED BY SWEDISH IMMIGRATION AUTHORITIES LAST SEPTEMBER AND HAVE NOW APPEALED TO THE GOVERNMENT (MINISTERIAL COUNCIL) FOR A FINAL REVIEW. A SPOKESMAN FOR THE CHILE COMMITTEE ESTIMATES THAT

SEVERAL HUNDRED REQUESTS FOR ASYLUM ARE NOW AWAITING ACTION BY IMMIGRATION AUTHORITIES.

3. COMMENT: THE DEMAND FOR A VISA REQUIREMENT FOR CHILEANS WE UNDERSTAND, WAS FIRST MADE BY OFFICIALS OF THE STATE IMMIGRATION BOARD, WHO FELT THAT MANY CHILEANS WHO ARE NOT POLITICALLY PERSECUTED COME TO SWEDEN FOR ECONOMIC REASONS AND RELY ON OFFICIAL GOOD WILL TOWARD CHILEANS TO HAVE THEIR APPLICATIONS ACCEPTED. GOS HAS IN THE PAST DIFFERED WITH CHILE COMMITTEE ON WHETHER OR NOT INDIVIDUALS REPRESENTING THEMSELVES AS REFUGEES WERE IN FACT SUCH AND BEGAN TO DENY RESIDENCY APPLICATIONS LAST SEPTEMBER.
KENNEDY-MINOTT

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, IMMIGRANTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STOCKH00079
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780013-0477
Format: TEL
From: STOCKHOLM
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780183/aaaacsq1.tel
Line Count: 75
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 5cb56de5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STOCKHOLM 4224
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11 feb 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3804977
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SWEDES TO TAKE COMPROMISE POSITION ON CHILEAN IMMIGRATION
TAGS: PINS, CI, SW
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/5cb56de5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014